



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Record of Decision Issued for the Heavy Equipment Wash Basin and Central Shops Burning/Rubble Pit (631-5G) Operable Unit

This Record of Decision (ROD) is being issued by the United States Department of Energy (DOE), the lead agency for the Savannah River Site (SRS), with concurrence by the United States Environmental Protection Agency – Region 4 (EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) announcing the remedial alternative selections for the Heavy Equipment Wash Basin (HEWB) and Central Shops Burning/Rubble Pit (CSBRP-5G) Operable Unit (OU) at SRS.

Central Shops Area is located in the central part of SRS, within the Fourmile Branch Watershed, approximately 6 miles from the nearest (western) site boundary. The HEWB/CSBRP-5G OU is located in the northeastern part of the Central Shops and consists of three subunits. The HEWB subunit received approximately 10 gal/min of wastewater five days a week from 1950 until the early 1970's. The wastewater contained traces of oil, grease, and detergents, plus significant levels of solids that were allowed to settle in the basin. The HEWB Overflow Discharge Area (ODA) subunit received flow from the HEWB during periods of overflow. The CSBRP-5G subunit received waste materials including asbestos, used batteries, and empty paint cans along with ash, paper, and glass at various times from 1951 until 1973. Waste was also burned periodically at CSBRP-5G from 1951 until 1973 when a layer of soil was placed over the ashes.

The DOE, the EPA and the SCDHEC have reviewed the risks associated with this unit and have evaluated cleanup alternatives. The following remedy has been selected for the HEWB subunit:

- Implement Institutional Controls in accordance with the Land Use Control Assurance Plan for SRS. The controls will include erecting warning signs and periodic field inspections.
- Perform five-year Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and liability Act remedy reviews.

There is no additional proposed alternative (other than the No Action alternative) for this subunit so a comparison was only made between the Institutional Controls alternative and the No Action alternative. The proposed action (Institutional Controls) was selected because it offers the most cost-effective method of managing the low risks associated with the HEWB subunit. The selected remedy for the CSBRP-5G and the HEWB ODA subunits is No Action.

The selected remedies will be protective of human health and the environment. They are also intended to be the final actions for the HEWB/CSBRP-5G OU.

The Record of Decision is part of the Administrative Record File and is available for public review during normal business hours at the following information repositories.

- DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC;
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC;

Hard copies of the Record of Decision are available at the following:

- Reese Library at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA; and
- Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

Any comments or questions may be directed to:

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The SRS Environmental Bulletin

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